

100	DAYS
OF	COMICS

**100 DAYS OF UNINTERRUPTED AND UNEDITED
DRAWINGS OF MY THOUGHTS**

01/06/2024 TO 08/09/2024

(with a bit of cheating here and there).

100 Days of Comics

Mariam Tovmasian

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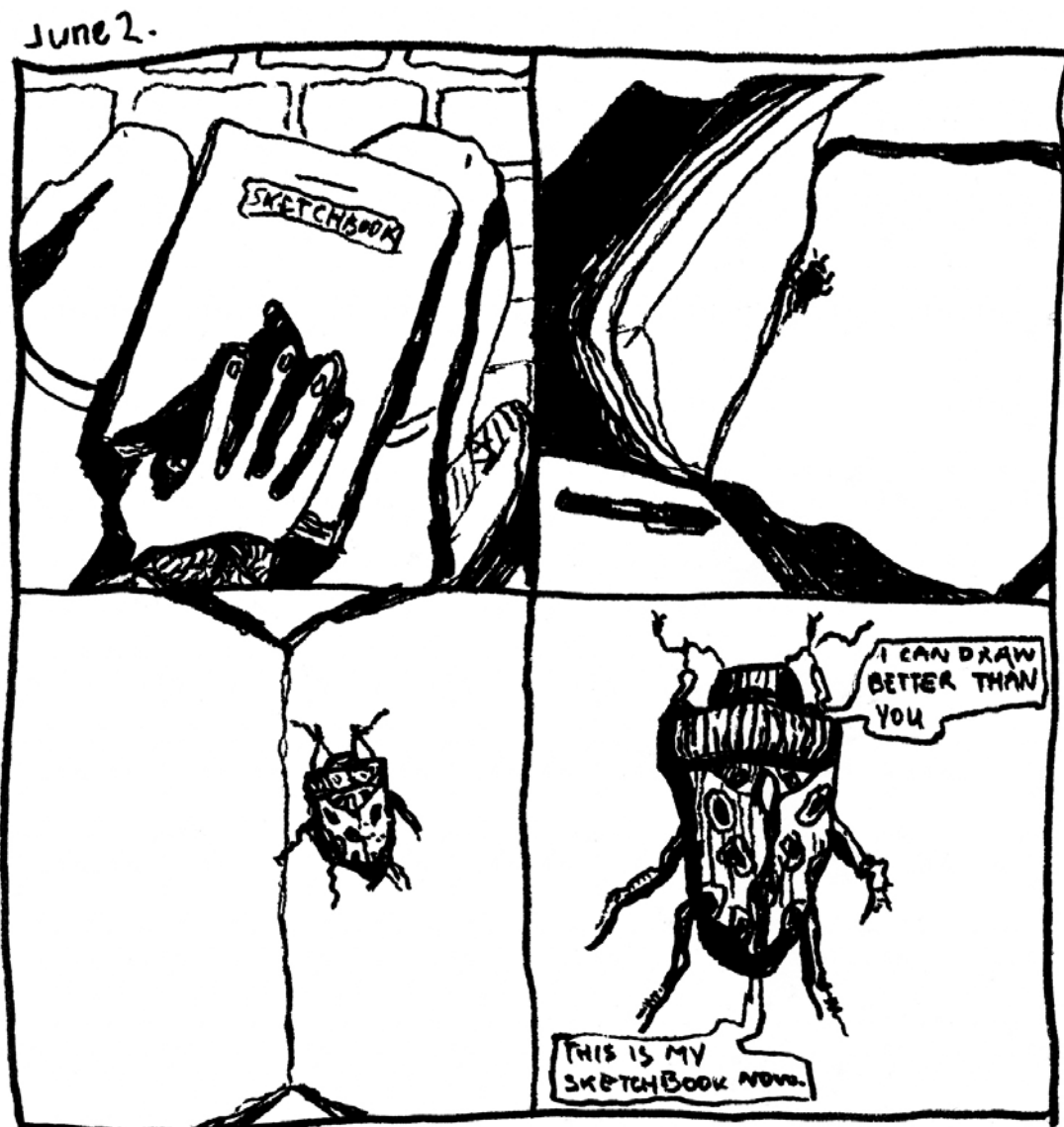
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100 DAYS OF COMICS

Mariam Tovmasian

June 1.

* It was hard to come up with an idea on the very first day.



4: I can draw better than you. This is my sketchbook now.



3: and imagine myself in these mountains.

2: I close my eyes...

4: And then I remember about home.



1: Sometimes I feel so exhausted when I need to go to pee...

3: How I have to sit on a toilet (cold) every day multiple times in the day

2: thinking about how my body is just a biological machine - performing one function over and over.

4: for the rest of my life.



1: To the girls of Yerevan.
3: The eyes are beautiful

2: To the girls of Yerevan.
4: of Yerevan girls.



1: I'll go to the Saint Sargis church.
3: One for us to stay together,
The other for God to protect us.

2: I'll light two candles.
4: Do not take God's name in vain.



1: Wait...

3: And have an army...of followers.

2: Maybe I can be an influencer.

4: NOOOO! I'm purging the devil.

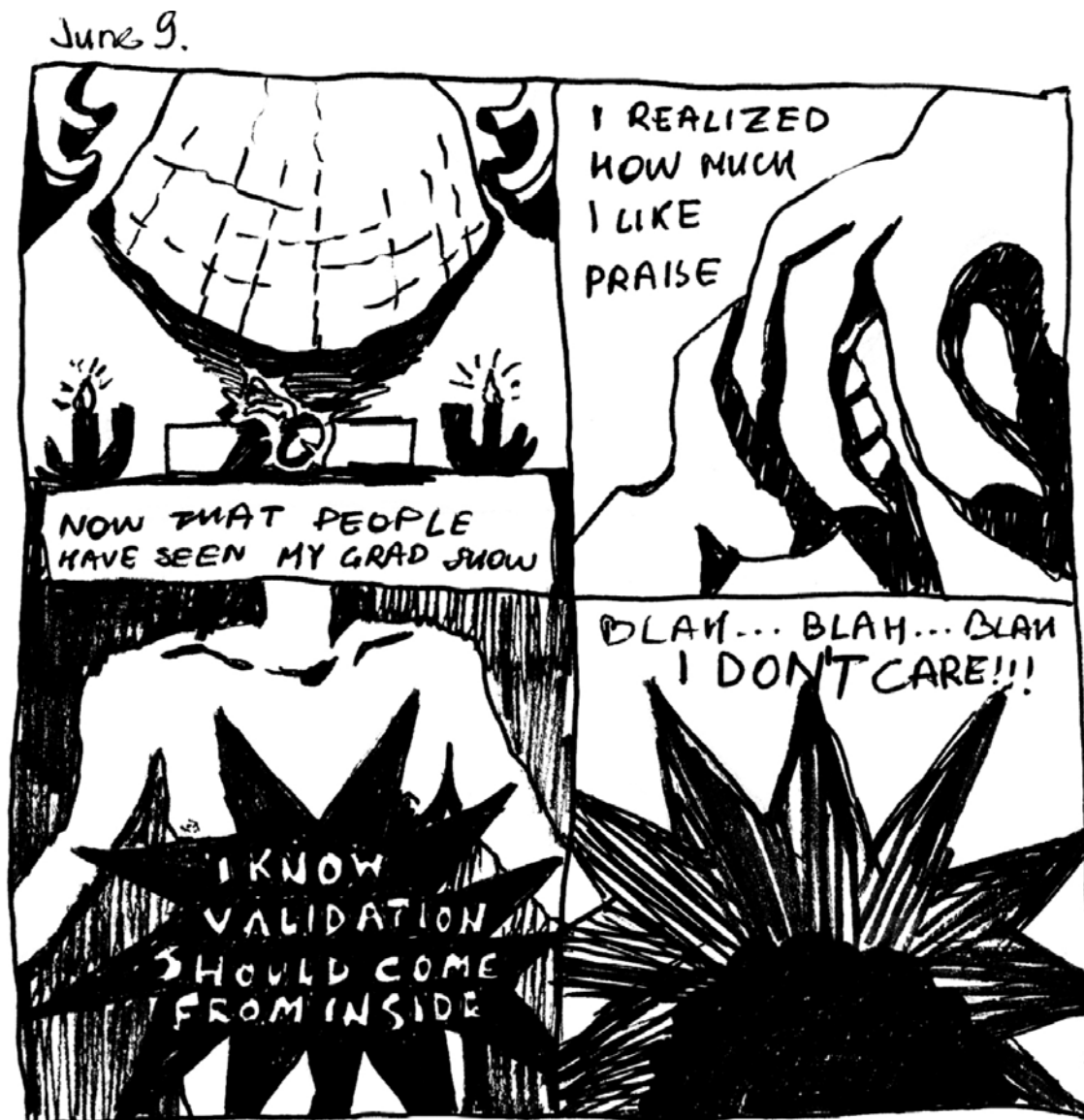


1: I never really wanted to be a grown-up when I was a kid.

3: I don't know if that says something about my childhood

2: I just knew adult life is not as good as kids imagine it.

4: or I somehow learnt as a kid to appreciate my childhood before it was gone.

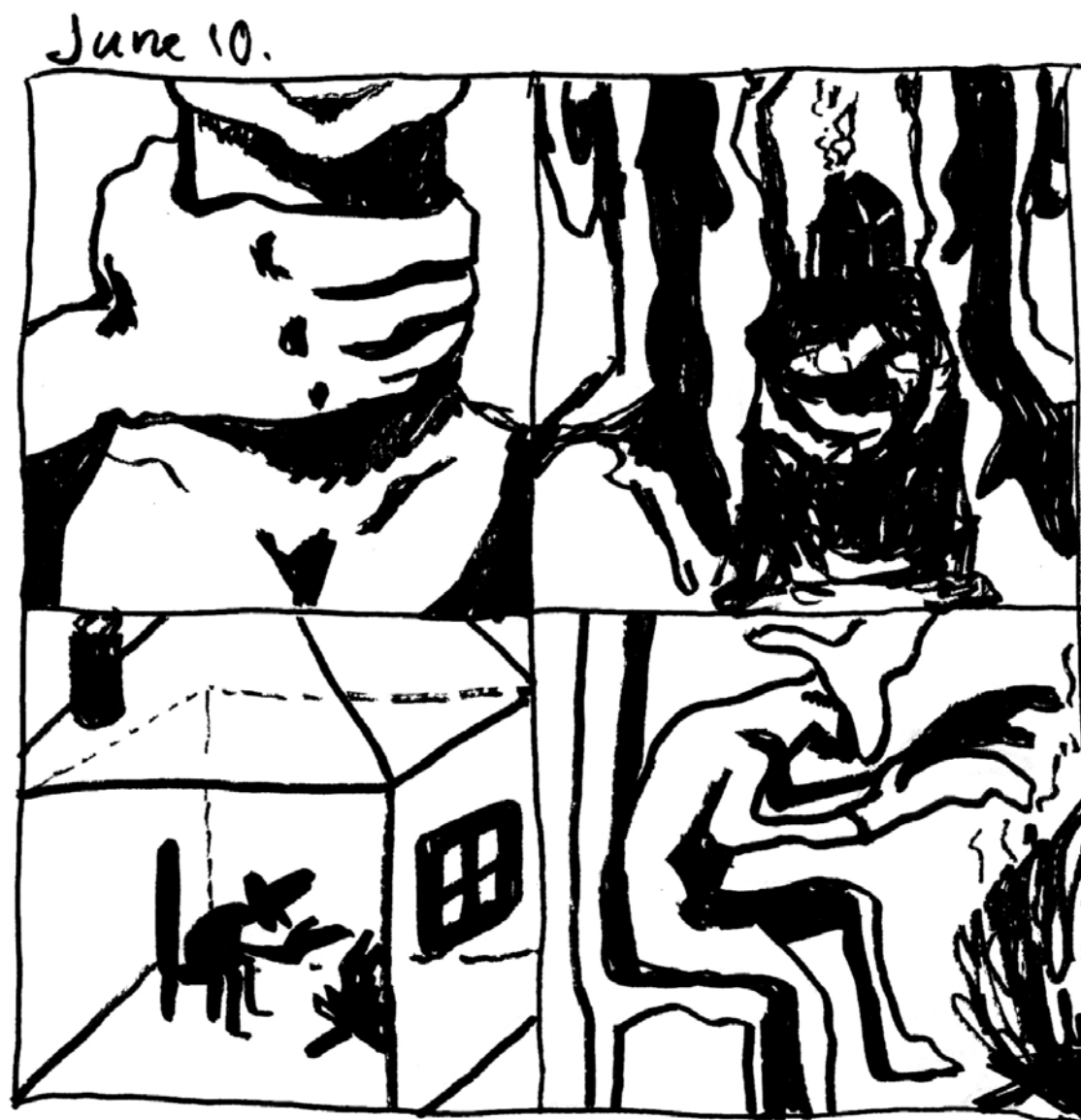


1: Now that people have seen my graduation show

3: I know validation should come from inside.

2: I realized how much I like praise.

4: Blah...blah...blah, I don't care!!!



* A sore throat.



1: Stella???

3: Stella! Stella!

2: Guinness?

4: Guinness! Guinness!

June 12.



4: JUST SLEEP. SLEEP SLEEP. NOW.



1: Now that a year's worth of work...

3: I thought it will feel heavy

2: ...is packed and sorted,

4: but it feels kinda nice?



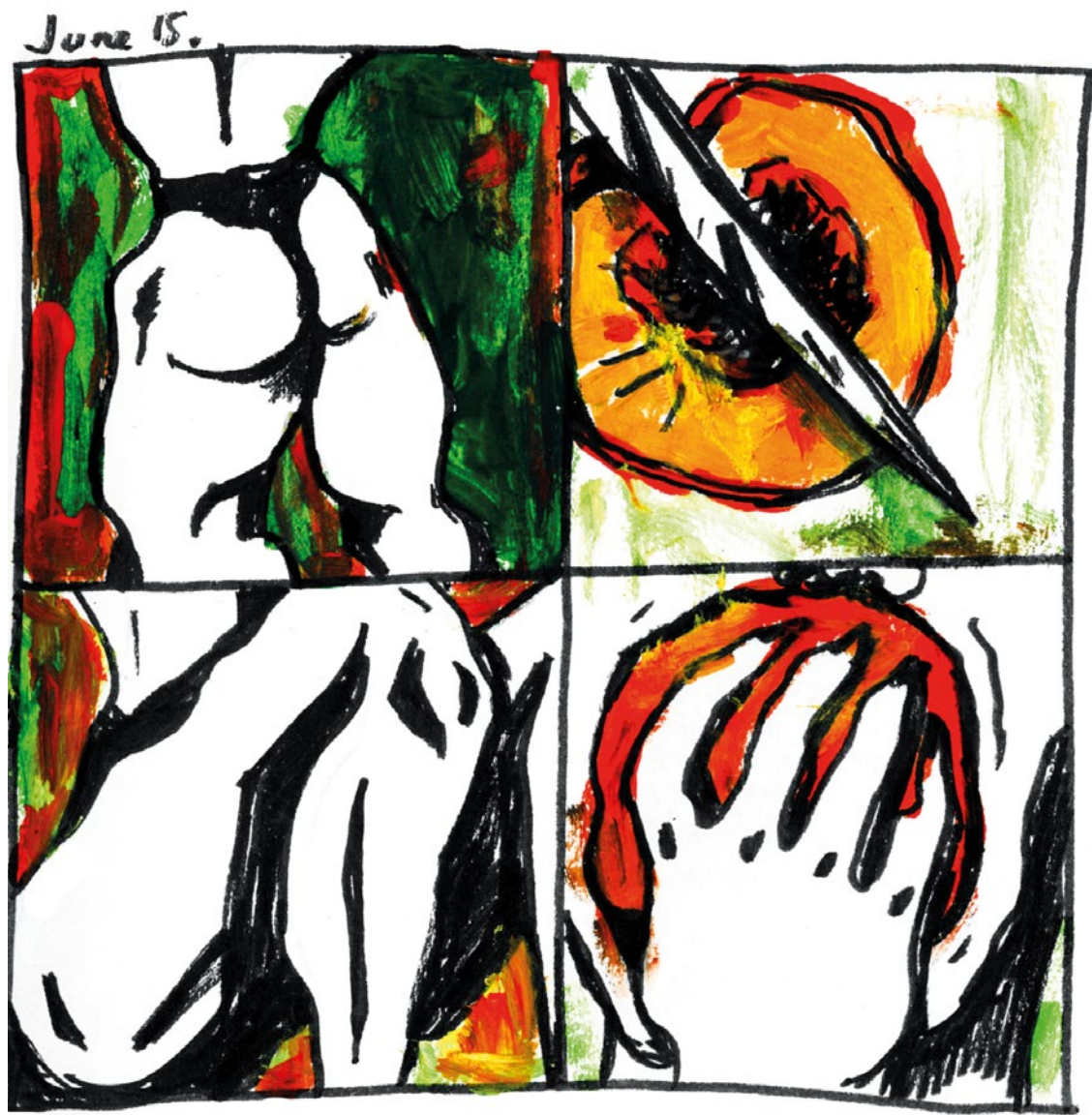
1: (a face time call)

3: I can be an influencer, right?

Yeah, you can do "get ready with me".

2: My life?

4: Oh, those days, oh!





- 1: Bad tattoos on leather-tanned skin
 3: Early nights in white sheets with lace curtains

- 2: Jesus Christ on a plastic sign
 4: Fall in love again and again.



1: I feel this nagging distance when I talk to someone in English

2: as if my words are going through a mesh...

3: All meanings get muddled, tones shifted, intentions lost.

4: Maybe this is the famous language barrier.



1: Sometimes I imagine what it's like to be a pop star.

2: To be adored by millions, herds of people defending the genius of my artistry.

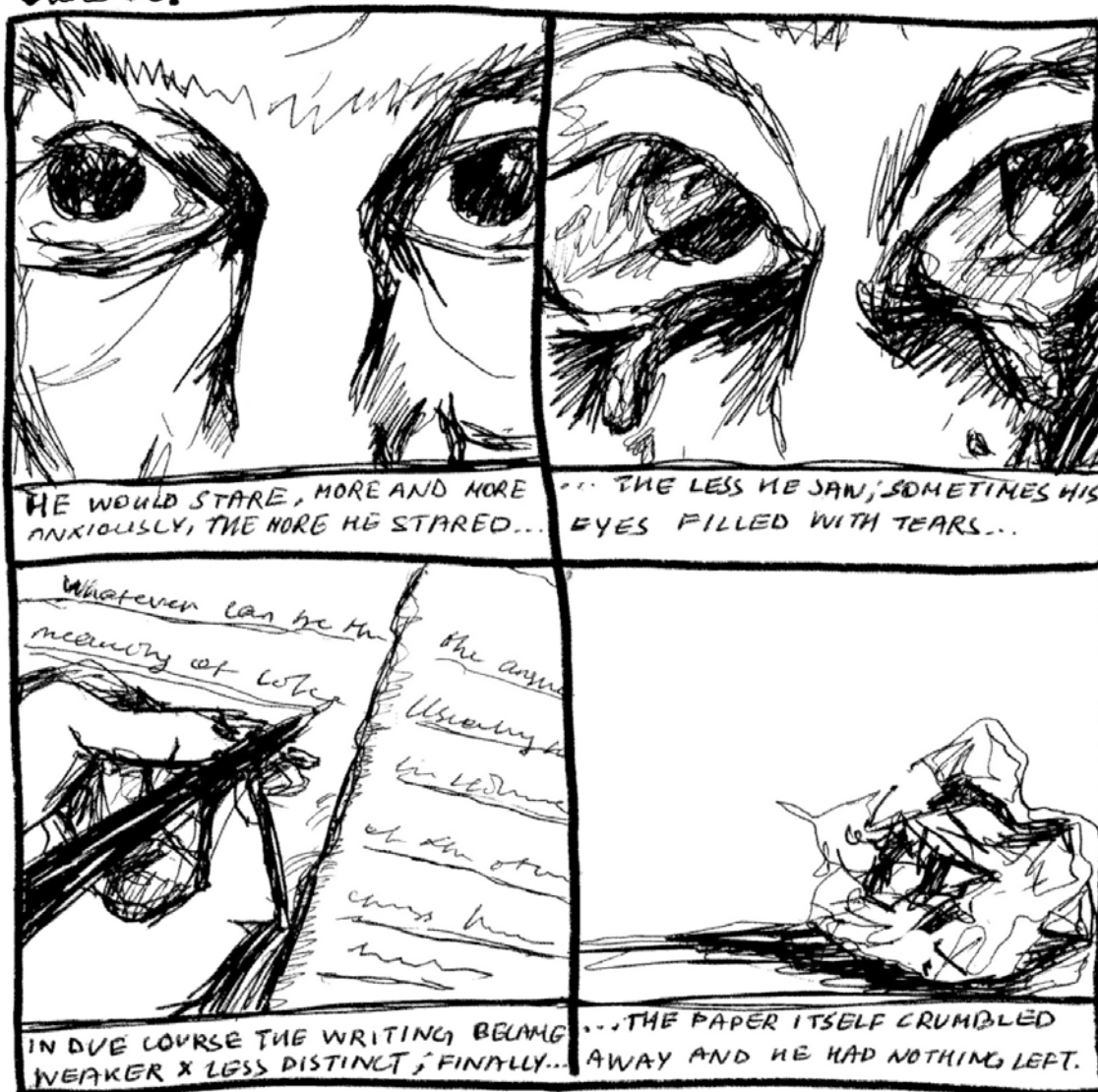
3: I probably chose the least glamorous art form,

4: where the most I can get from someone is "that's pretty".



* An average day in June.

June 20.



1: He would stare, more and more anxiously, the more he stared...

3: In due course the writing became weak and less distinct; finally...

2: ...the less he saw; sometimes his eyes filled with tears...

4: ... the paper itself crumbled away and he had nothing left.



1: I get so startled when someone laughs at what I say.

2: At first I play back the conversation in my head to make sure it was real.

3: Did I say something wrong?

4: Or was it just my accent?

June 22.



June 23.



* One of the evenings spent watching the sunset on Arthur's Seat.



* Looking for a graduation dress.

June 25.



1: Isn't it funny...

3: ...that when

2: ...so funny

4: ...we start to...

June 26



1: I love British summer.

3: Love it...

2: no really...

4: sooo much!

June 27.



1: Can a woman ever escape the insecurities about her body?

2: Will the comments of the past keep haunting her in new places?

3: Is she destined to break down in the dressing room?

4: Or is there another way?

June 28



1: My flat is filled with things I made now...

3: I get mad at myself for not making something...

2: it all looks so foreign.

4: more useful, more commercial, something that will look good on LinkedIn, Insta, on tote bags, on posters, sell more, make more money.



1: Aren't weddings so lovely?

3: The day she becomes undead.

2: A girl's dream.

4: Unmarried girls die dead.

June 30



3: for the past 30 days

2: I have been drawing 4 squares every day

4: and it's been really nice to draw every day :)

July 1



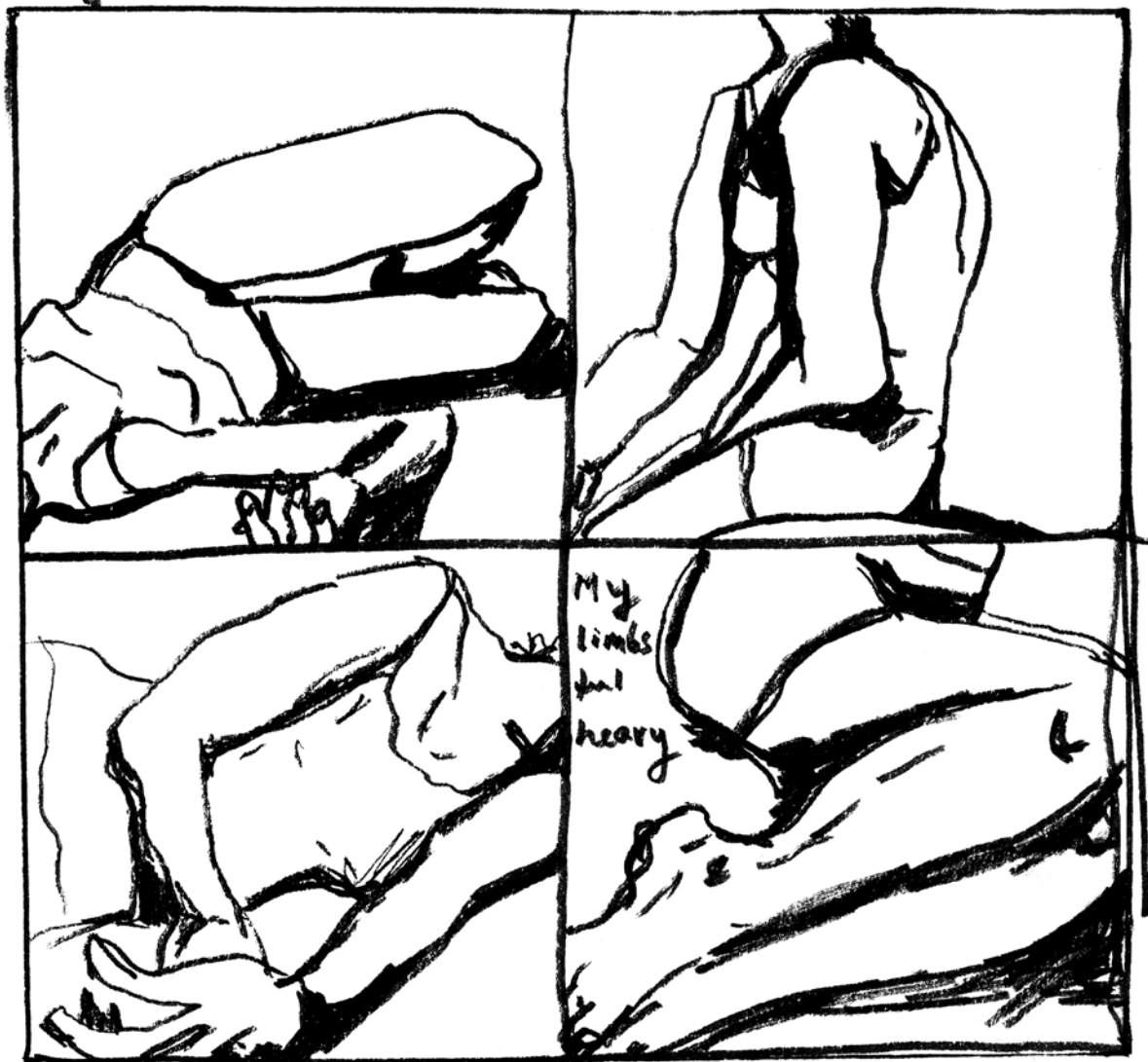
1: What's worse? Regretting something you missed out on...

2: ...in the past or something that went wrong.

3: Maybe what's actually worse is doing nothing in hopes of...

4: something happening in the future.

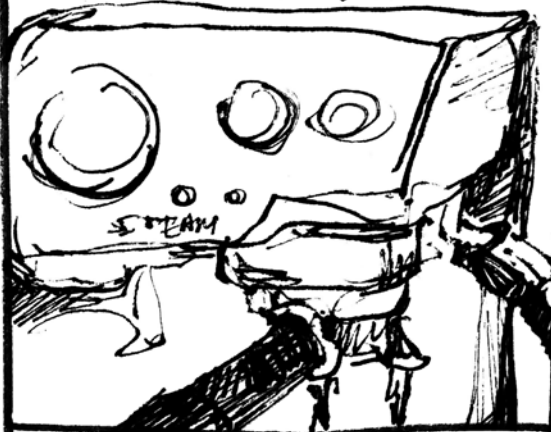
July 2.



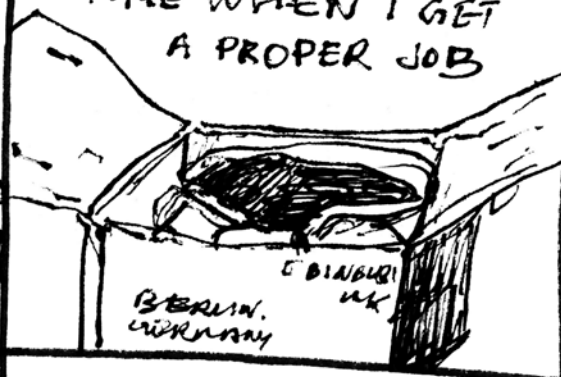
4: My limbs feel heavy.

July 3.

I'M GONNA GET A FANCY
COFFEE MACHINE



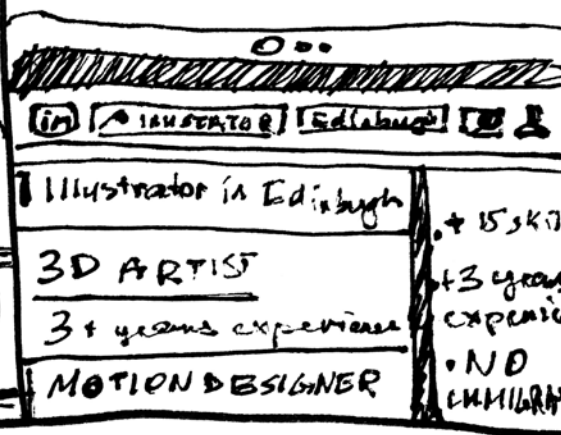
AND BUY MY FRIENDS
COOL GIFTS ALL THE
TIME WHEN I GET
A PROPER JOB



JUST. YOU. WAIT.



... ah shit



1: I'm gonna get a fancy coffee machine

3: JUST. YOU. WAIT.

2: and buy my friends cool gifts all the time when I get a proper job.

4: ...ah shit.

July 4.

Sometimes it feels ^{not good} strange to



be Armenian in the West.

And the rooms I think I'll
get heard, usually the



most I get "ah, they're
bad guys, anyways..."

I live with stories of my
friends getting shouted at



"WE'RE GOING TO FINISH
THE GENOCIDE" NOW

Whatever I do, I can't
stop or learn not to



be bitter or hurt,
or feel crazy for all of it.

1: Sometimes it feels not good to be Armenian in the West.

3: And the rooms I think I'll be heard *in*, usually the most I get "ah, they're bad guys, anyways..."

2: I live with stories of my friends getting shouted at "WE'RE GOING TO FINISH THE GENOCIDE" now.

4: Whatever I do, I can't stop or learn not to be bitter or hurt, or feel crazy for all of it.

July 5



1: I want apricots.

3: I want watermelons on a sunny day.

2: And I want figs as well.

4: And I'm going to have all of it. At home.

July 6



1: I want a biiiiiig illustration.

3: And I need it minimalist for my wall.

2: I want it drawn by hand with intricate details.

4: And deliver it next week, yeah?

July 7



1: I'm practicing intentional boredom.

3: It is okay to stay alone with your thoughts and I'm capable of it.

2: I'm rejecting stimulation at every corner.

4: Within this space of boredom and silence I shall find my next ideas.

July 8



1: Is this all part of nature's plan?

3: If not... at what point did we become unnatural?

2: An unexpected by-product of evolution.

4: Was it when the first weapon was cast?



1: It's like we're alone now more than ever.

3: Voices buzzing at us, in our ears!

2: But we're never truly alone in silence still.

4: To distract us from the fact that we are alone.

July 10



1: In the glittering backlight, a fat baby seal is doing nothing special.

3: We are so fortunate to live with all these amazing creatures.

2: I don't think there is such a unique, cute, interesting and unique fish.

4: A perfect celestial being.



1: Me when I'm graduating tomorrow.

3: Me when I'm on stage.

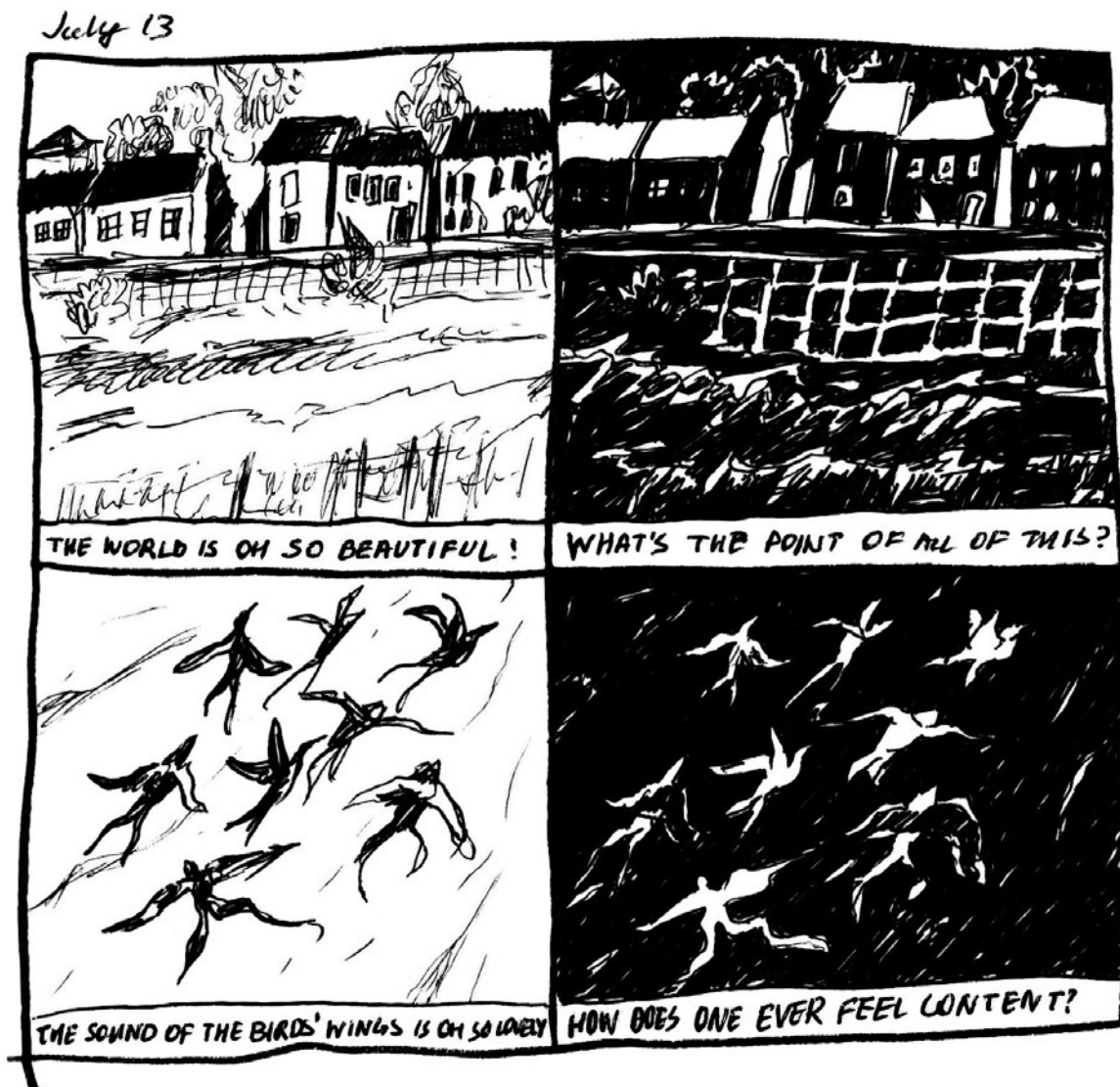
2: Me when I need to go on stage.

4: Me when my parents are taking pictures.

July 12



* Experiencing British children's park.



1: The world is oh so beautiful!

3: The sound of the birds' wings is oh so lovely!

2: What's the point of all of this?

4: How does one ever feel content?

July 14, Kelvingrove Gallery



1: Beautiful girls were favourite subjects in the 1890s.

2: No way!

3: Really?

4: That's crazy.

July 15



1: It's a bitter feeling to realize you have been a pick-me-girl * more than once before.

3: Pretended to hate gossiping, rom-coms, looking pretty, feeling pretty, crying, shopping with friends, attention, pop-stars, pretty boys.

2: Pretending to prefer the company of "sophisticated" boys over one of the "simple-minded" girls.

4: It is all so hard to forget, even though I succumbed to the powers of girl friends.



1: It has been at least 3 decades since she told me that she wanted to disappear without leaving a trace, and I'm the only one who knows *what* she means.

3: She wanted every one of her cells to disappear.

2: She meant something different. She wanted to vanish.

4: Nothing of her ever to be found.



* Leaving for Armenia.



3: It's so weird to witness the smallness of our existence

4: and to be scared to lose it.



1: The prospect of success tastes good -
3: eyes looking at me first.

2: my name signed under various things,
4: The day when I can say: "I TOLD YA".

July 20



1: Coming back takes a bit of getting used to again.

2: There is a period of shedding

3: where I take off anything pretended and altered.

4: Or maybe it's the opposite.



1: The more times I come home the more things look different to me.

3: - remembering, reimagining, rethinking.

2: Analysing people's faces, trying to find myself in them

4: It is like looking at yourself from outside-above.

July 22



1: Did you know that mosquitoes use your blood to lay eggs?

3: What???

2: And only female mosquitoes bite.

4: So not only are they stealing my DNA, but they're also using me?



1: This reality is a fucking joke.

3: And everything bad is connected with a secret web.
I mean what can we the fuck do? Right?

2: And everything good is just a disguised bad.

4: Right!

July 24



2: Accidental Yerevan swag!

4: (or intentional)

July 25



* Yerevan Metro

4: It's strange to be perceived.



1: Hey girl!

4: Girl?

July 27



1: Matsouni (an Armenian women's circle dance).

4: Hundreds of women, holding each other tightly, swaying right and left.

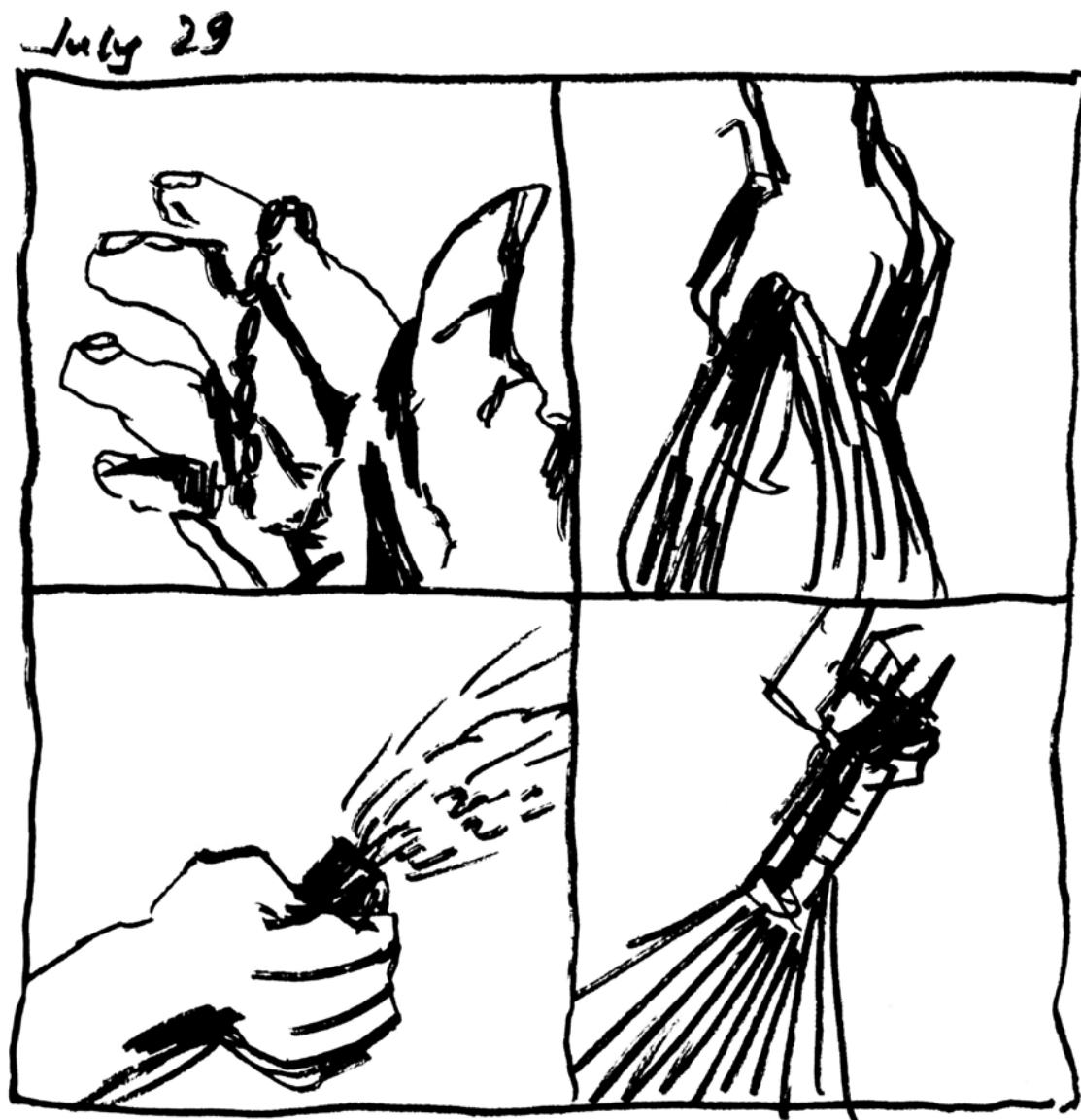


1: I want to lay on the beach

3: Eat good food and drink good wine

2: and finish a book in 2 days.

4: and never think about cover letters again.



* Hands of Yerevan (sketched in a rush).



1: Should I wear make-up?

3: All the girls in Yerevan are effortlessly done up.

2: My eye bags and dark circles do look bad.

4: The only thing I'm effortlessly is phony.

JULY 31



1: I actually don't care.

3: And I don't care that I don't have power to do anything.

2: I don't care that residential buildings get levelled.

4: But most importantly I don't care that people don't care.

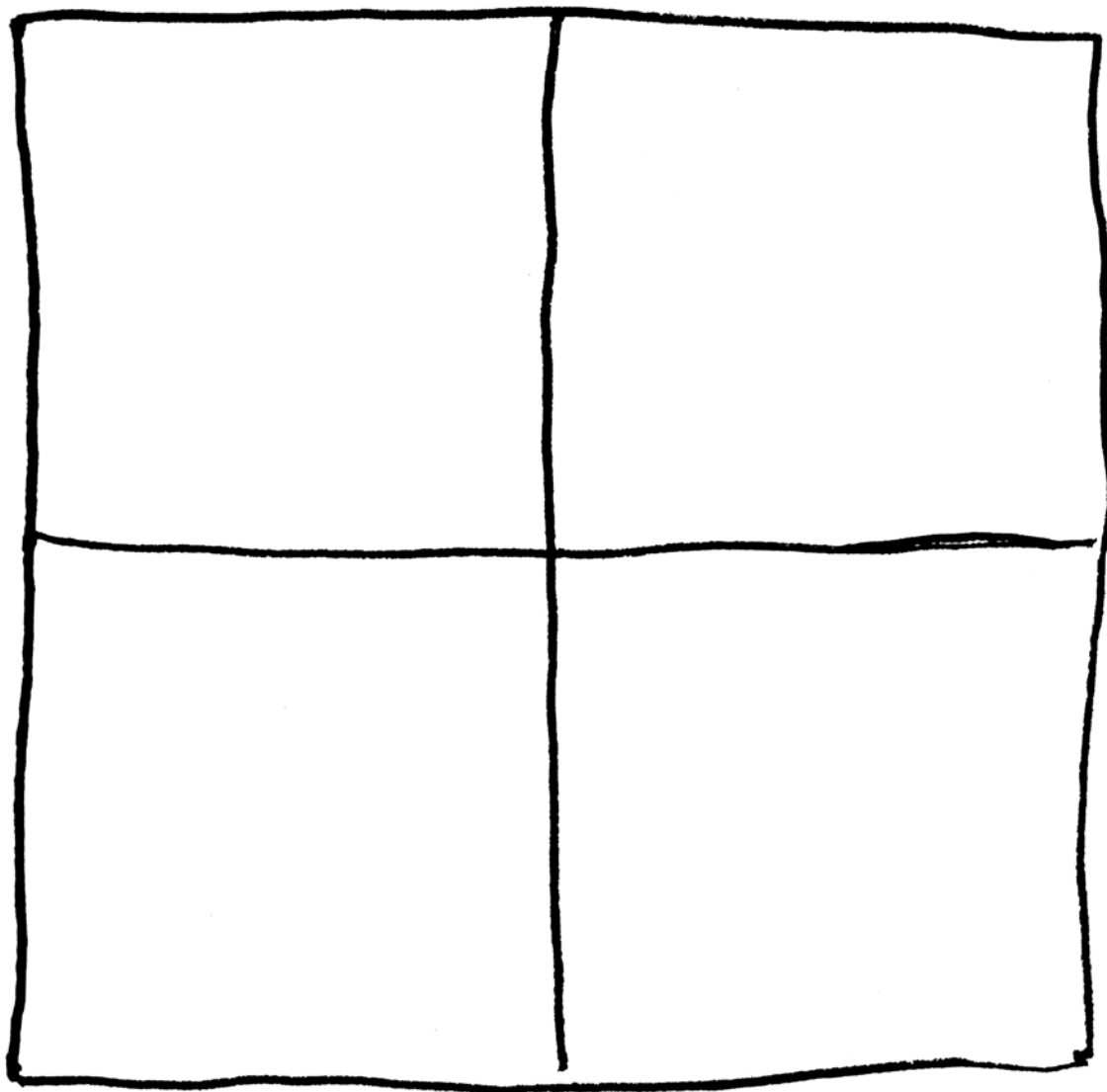


1: You know it's really baffling

3: to wait for it, the day it happens to you

2: to desire something so much,

4: but in the end, in the midst of it happening feel like an imposter.



August 3



1: Sometimes you have a thought - an idea.

3: And no matter how hard you try to give it up,

2: The one that shatters your current reality.

4: you can't give it up 'cause you already gave up.



* Hiking in Dilijan with my friend Lush.

August 5



1: You wait for the worst thing to happen (anxiously).

2: And you know it's definitely coming.

3: You fool yourself "I'm ready" - a comfort against the anxiety.

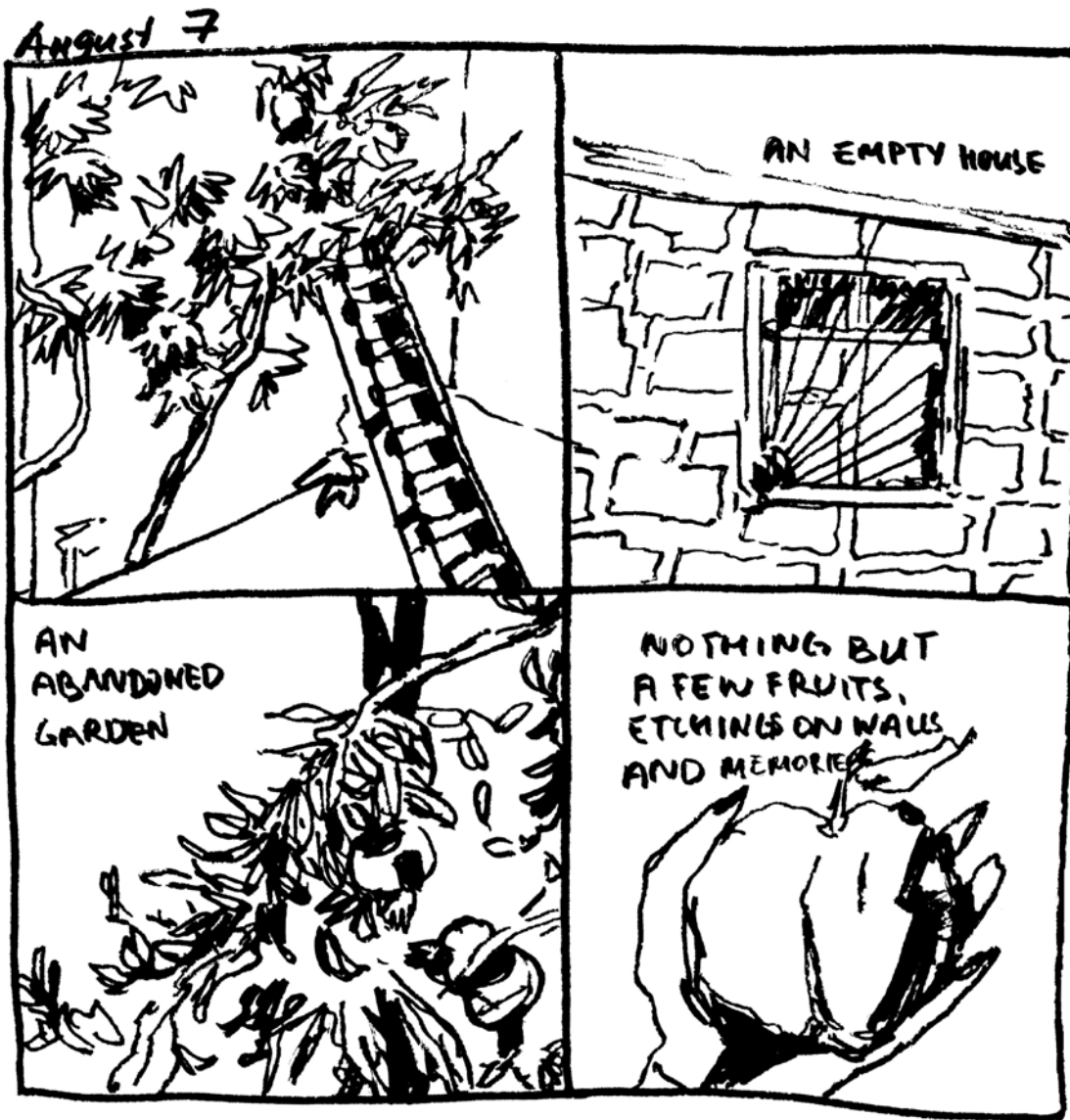
4: But you can't be. NO ONE IS REALLY.

August 6



1: Sometimes you run into something from the past.
 3: and imaginary pasts and futures pop in your mind.

2: Something that was once the raw centre of your life.
 4: The lines of crossroads blurred and redrawn.



3: An abandoned garden

2: An empty house

4: Nothing but a few fruits, etchings on walls and memories.

August 8



1: Should I start prioritizing family, career, myself?

3: I see other people doing it, should I?

2: Start thinking about only myself, compete with friends.

4: Is this how adult friendships die? Shells of warmth and genuinity (genuineness).

August 9



1: They say it's a coincidence -

2: a confirmation bias.

3: But how can you explain the feeling you get when

4: someone you love is not doing good far away?

August 10



3: To pack dreams, ideals, dignity, preference

2: Time has come for me to sell my soul.

4: and send it to the devil.

August 11



1: My great-grandpa had to leave his house in Western Armenia.

3: My day left his house in Armenia for a better one (abroad).

2: My grandma had to leave her house in Artsakh.

4: Will I lose my house too? Or will I even have a house at all?

August 12



1: She is the epitome of femininity - an Armenian goddess, long, straight black hair, large black eyes, tan skin, bushy brows.

2: When she looks up, she is also the keeper of male eyes.

3: She is graceful, mysterious, humble, respectable - a beauty, the ultimate object of desire.

4: Can I even enter the competition? No, can I really? I want to know how it feels like.



1: Mom, look, cows!

4: Hello Mariam.

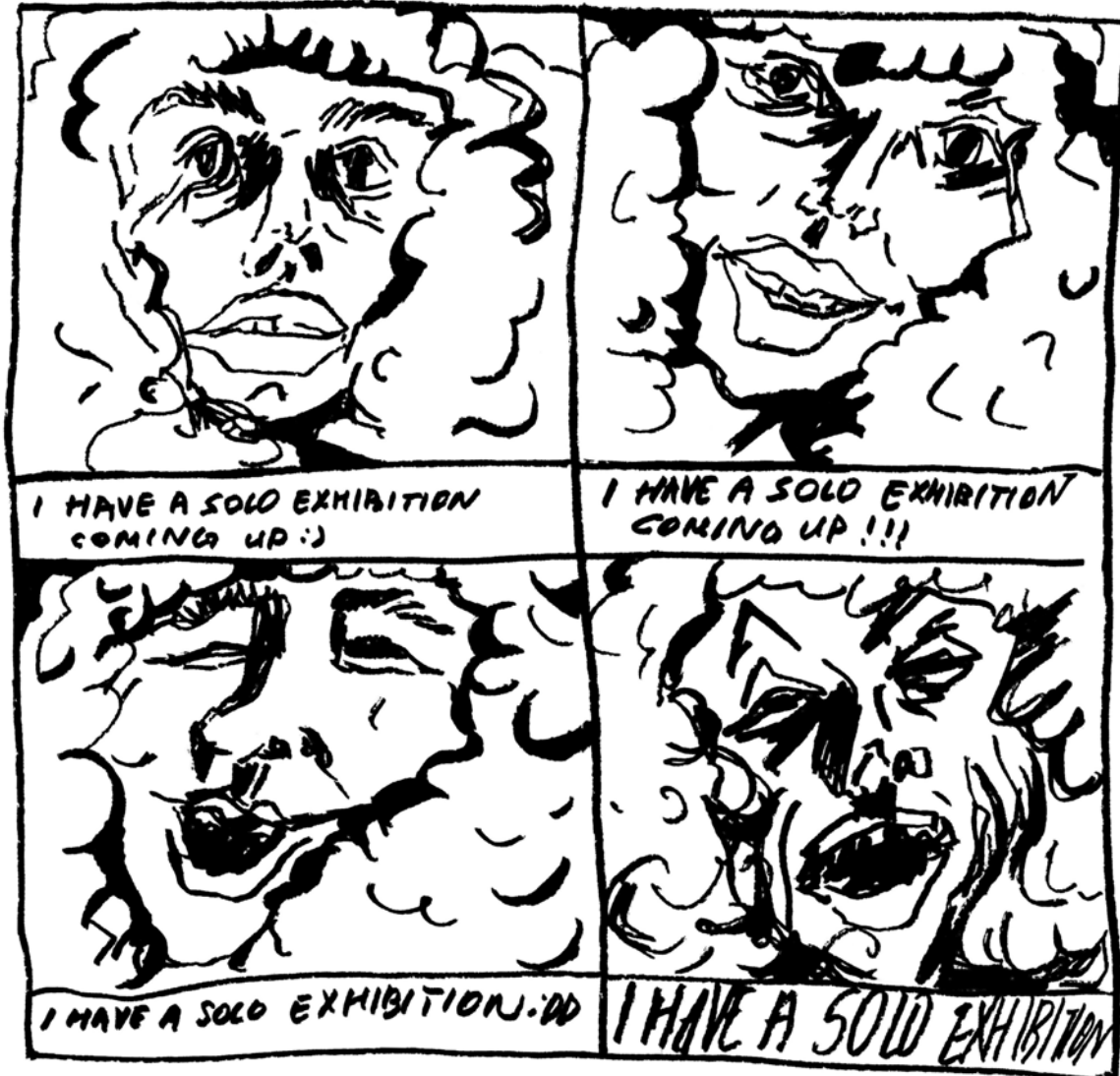
August 14



1: My child, tell it to the water and it will pass.

4: I'M TIREEEEEED!

August 15



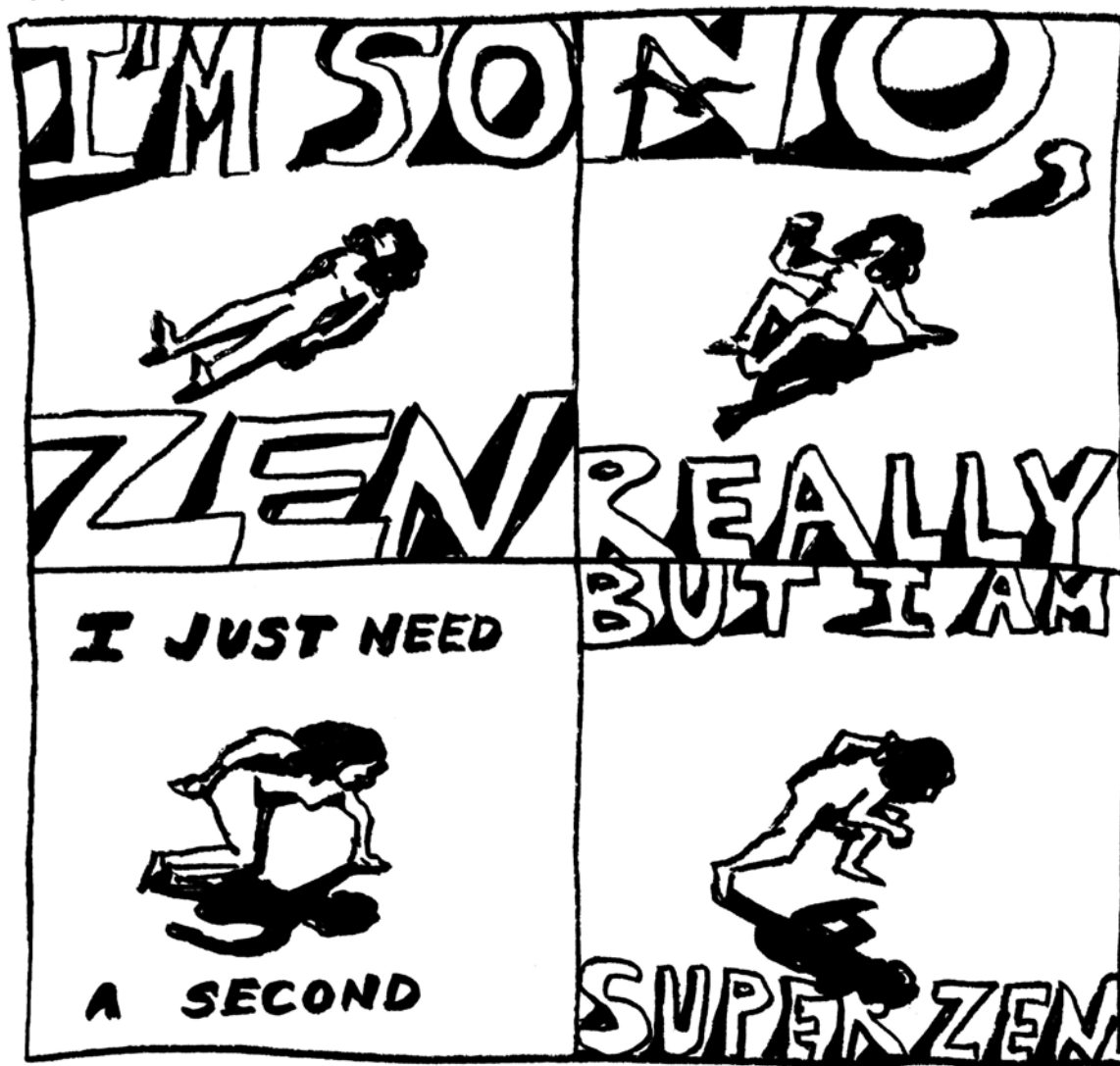
1: I have a solo exhibition coming up :)

2: I have a solo exhibition :DD

3: I have a solo exhibition coming up!!!

4: I HAVE A SOLO EXHIBITION.

August 16



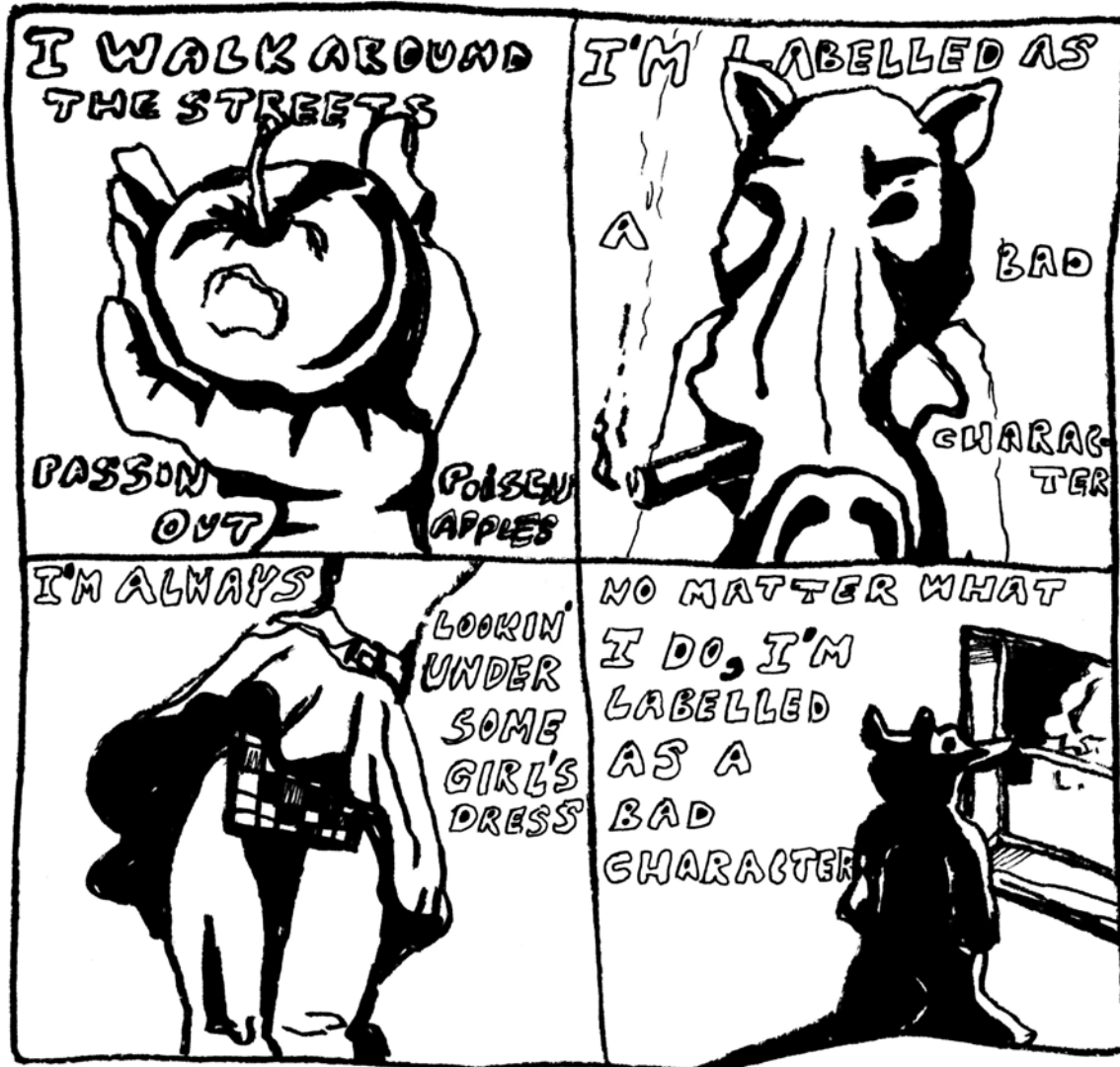
1: I'M SO ZEN.

3: I JUST NEED A SECOND

2: NO, REALLY.

4: BUT I AM SUPER ZEN.

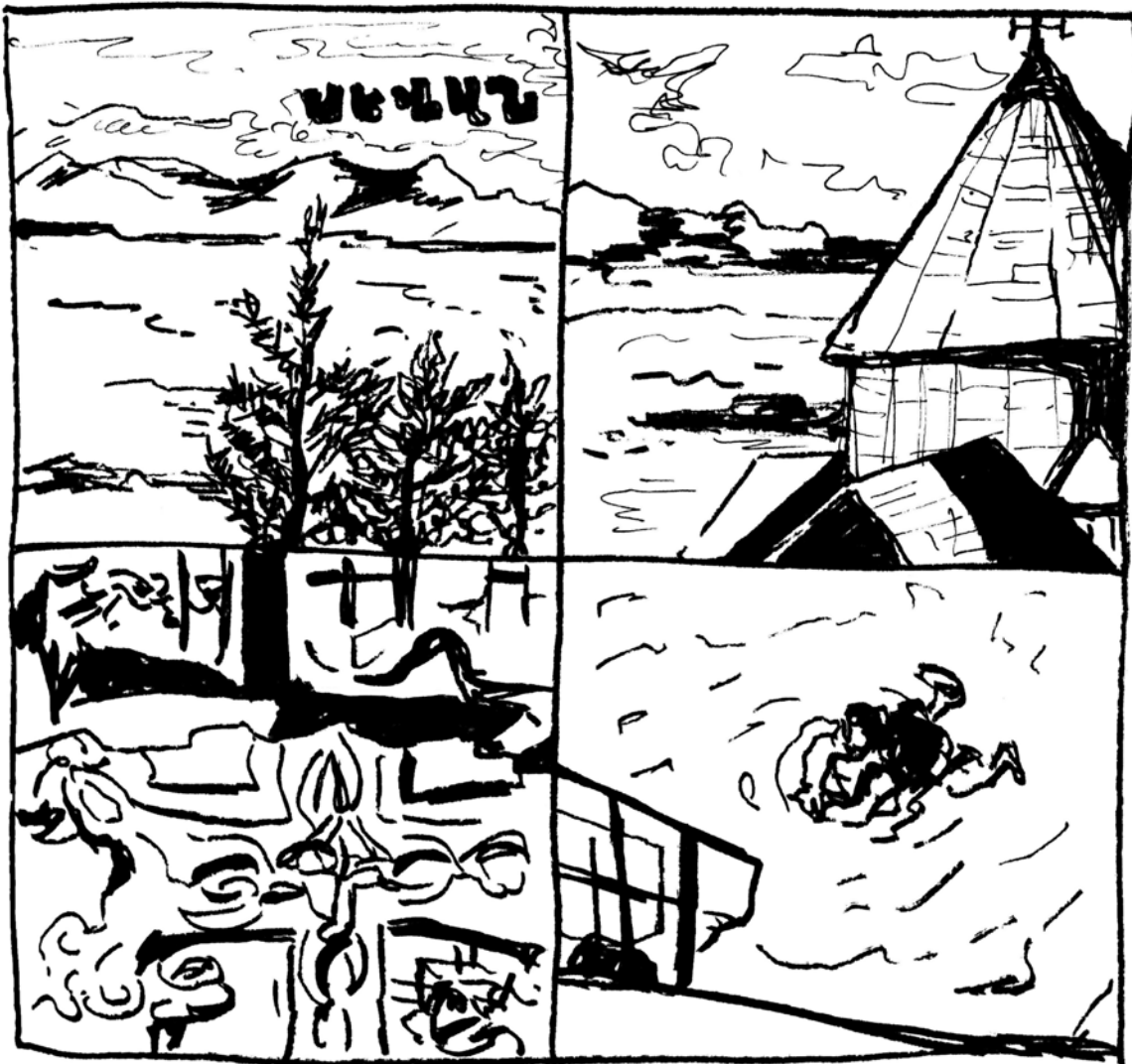
August 17



- 1: I walk around the streets passin' out poison apples.
 3: I'm always lookin' under some girl's dress.

- 2: I'm labelled as a bad character.
 4: No matter what I do, I'm labelled as a bad character.

09:00 18



August 19



1: Why do birthdays get sadder each year?

3: No surprises, people forgetting, colourless.

2: Less messages, less birthday wishes.

4: But when I was a kid, a few balloons under my window in our village made me feel loved.



1: Do you feel any different now that you're 23?
No...well, I mean

3: What impending doom?

2: I just feel this anxiety of an impending doom coming.

4: I guess that I will feel less and less joy every birthday until...

August 21



1: Look at her giving a talk about her art.

3: It's like she appeared out of nowhere,

2: I mean she just graduated! Who even is she?

4: I mean it's just pathetic.

August 22



August 23

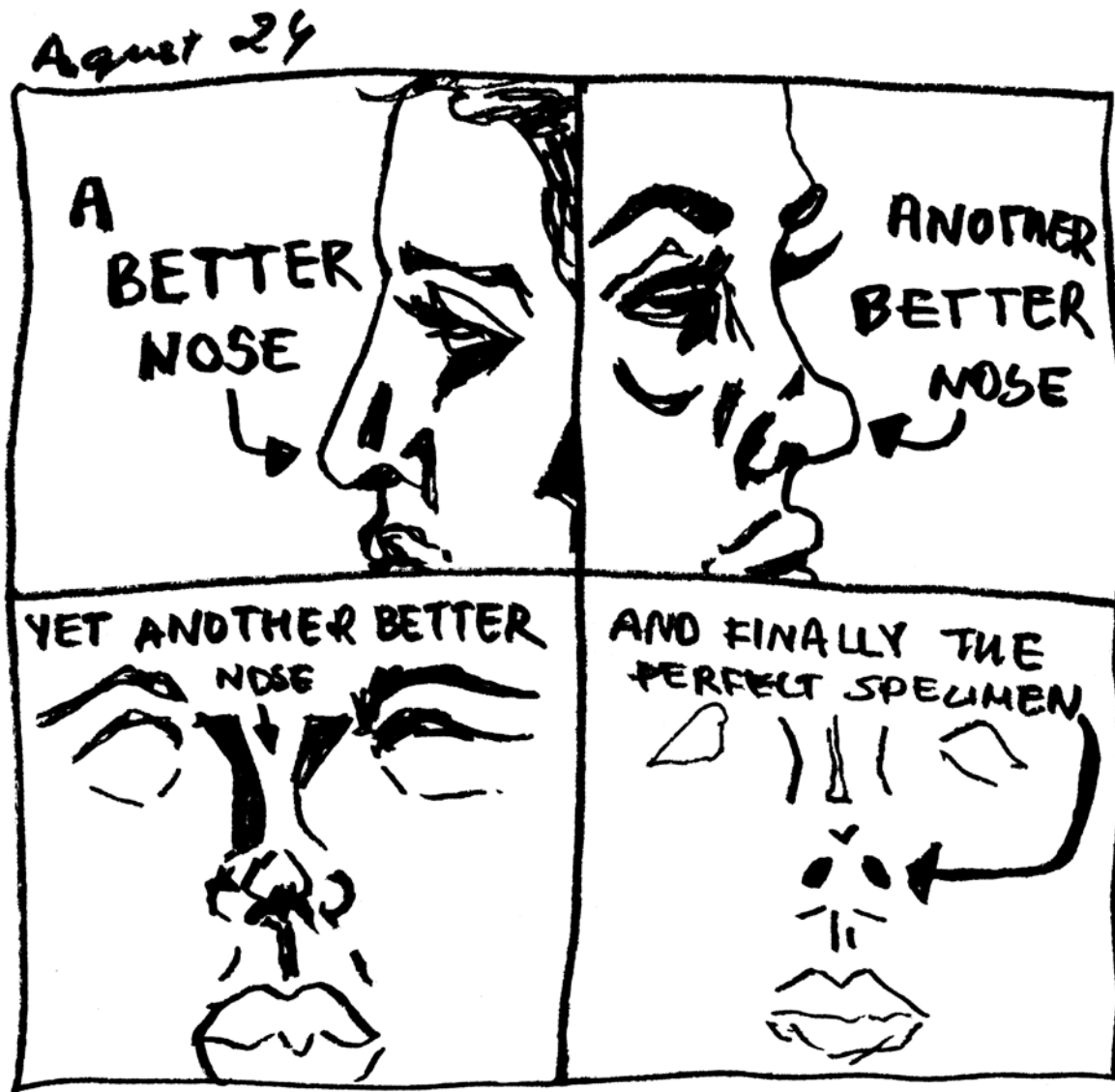


1: Sometimes I feel like there is a switch inside me for things.

3: I adore you.

2: Cause you know what? I don't feel like it anymore.

4: I want to murder you with my bare hands.



1: A better nose

3: Yet another better nose

2: Another better nose

4: And finally the perfect specimen.

August 25



3: Are you always going to follow me?

2: Who are you?

4: Yes.

August 26



1: What's up with men not being able to handle...

3: Yes, people pay me for my art, yes, I know how to use Illustrator.

2: a younger girl better at their job than them.

4: I might take your job too.

August 27



3: ... and exhibited.

2: I really made something that could be hanged.

4: WOW

August 28



2: I actually don't think it's cute when somebody is obsessed with you.

4: There is a shadow to your every move.

3: It's actually pretty exhausting.

August 29

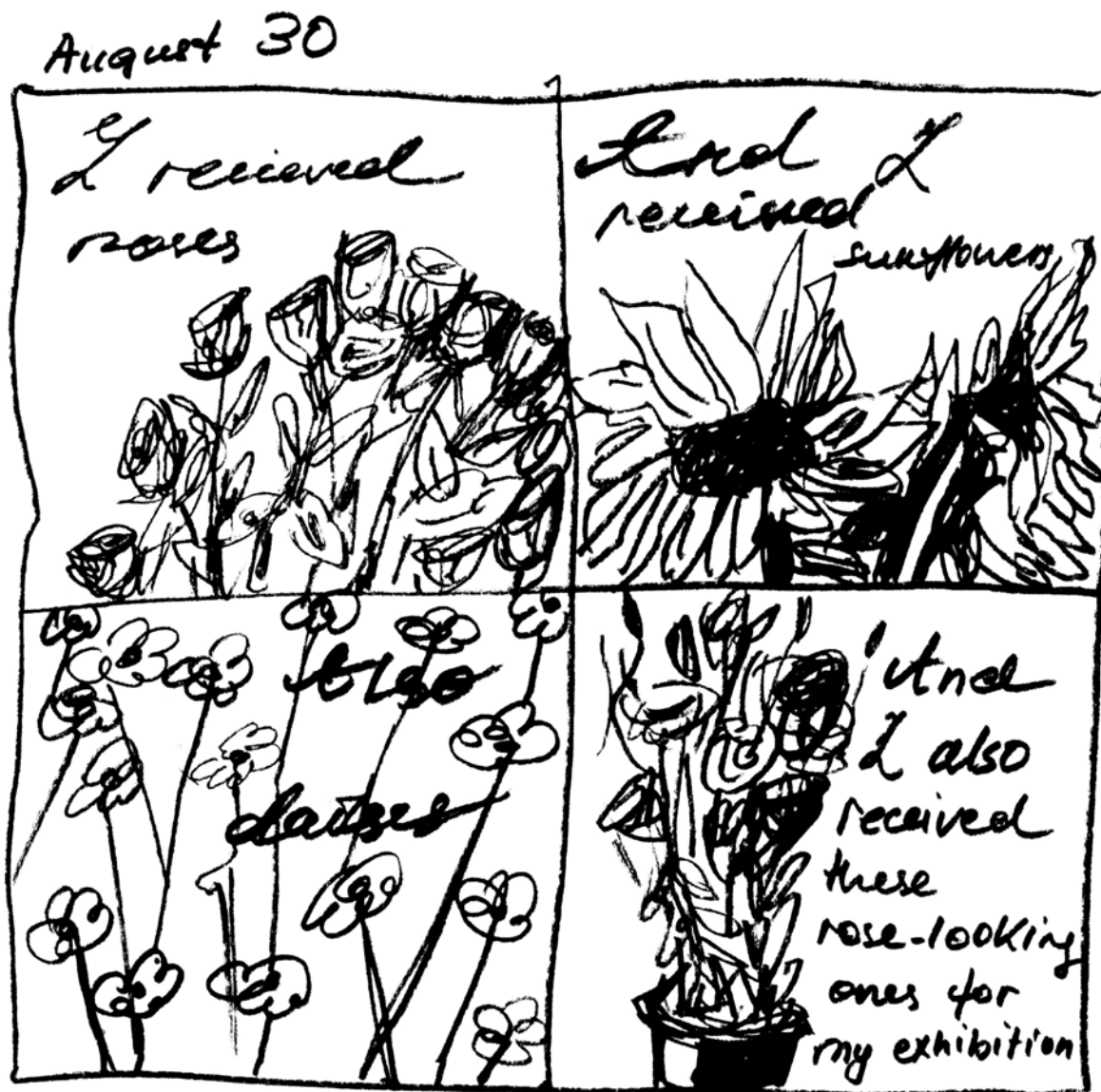


1: You know what? I'm actually not gonna stay awake before an important day this time!

3: like from the belt to the inseam

2: But wouldn't it be funny if my pants ripped tomorrow?

4: 30 minutes before opening.



1: I received roses.

3: Also daisies.

2: And I received sunflowers.

4: And I also received these rose-looking ones for my exhibition.

August 31



1: It's strange to have power over other people's opinions,

3: especially, when

4: it didn't always feel like that.

September 1

it's really strange to
see vials of your blood



being drawn
out of
your body



A DARK RED LIQUID



an opaque
evidence
of my
physicality



1: It's really strange to see vials of your blood

3: A dark red liquid -

2: being drawn out of your body.

4: an opaque evidence of my physicality.

September 2



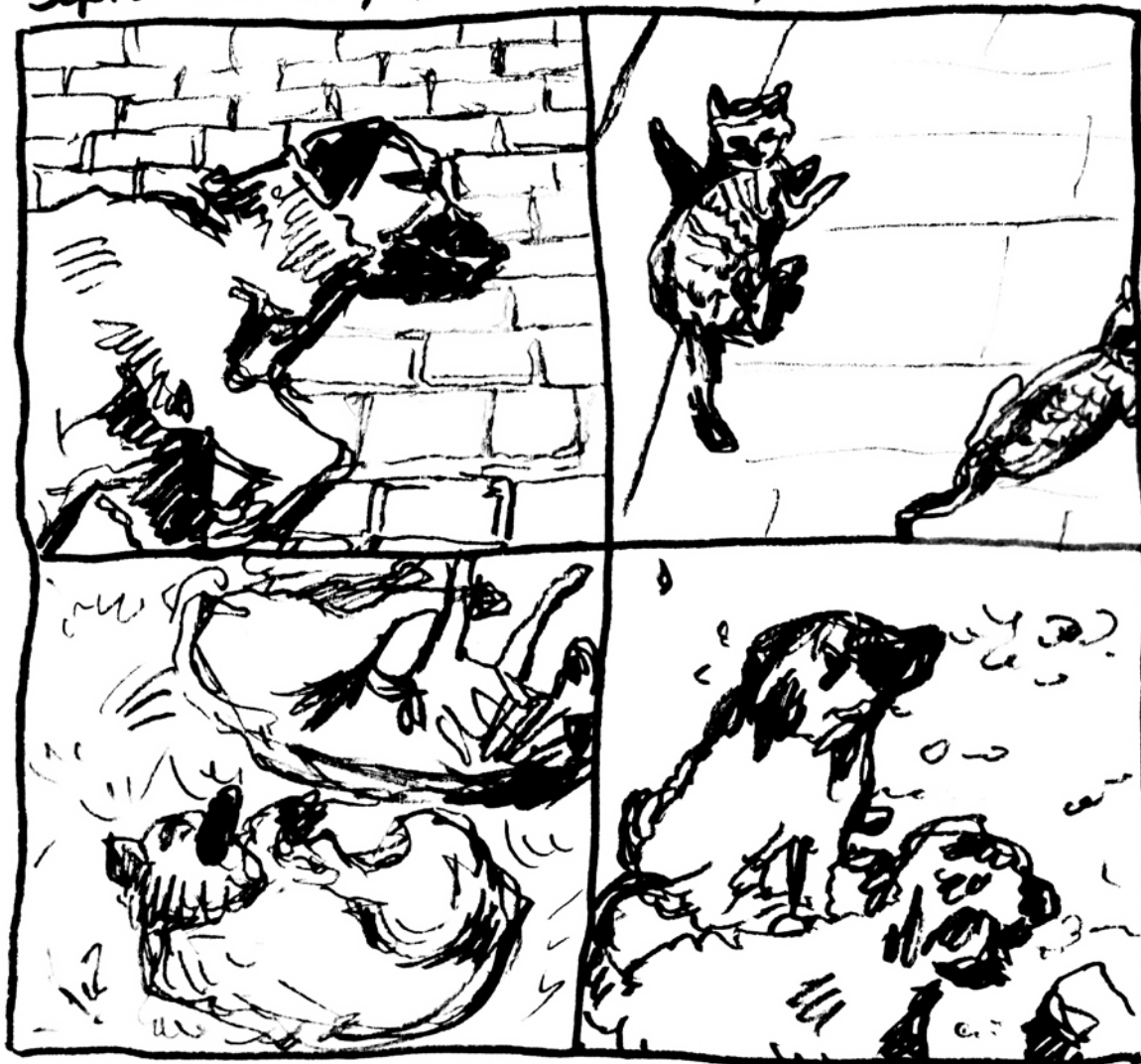
1: I mean... Am I toxic?

3: But I feel like what I do and say *is* justified

2: Maybe I'm the toxic friend you know.

4: and everyone else's just isn't (sorry).

September 3, Yerevan (1st day)



* Yerevan's street pets.

~~August~~ September 4

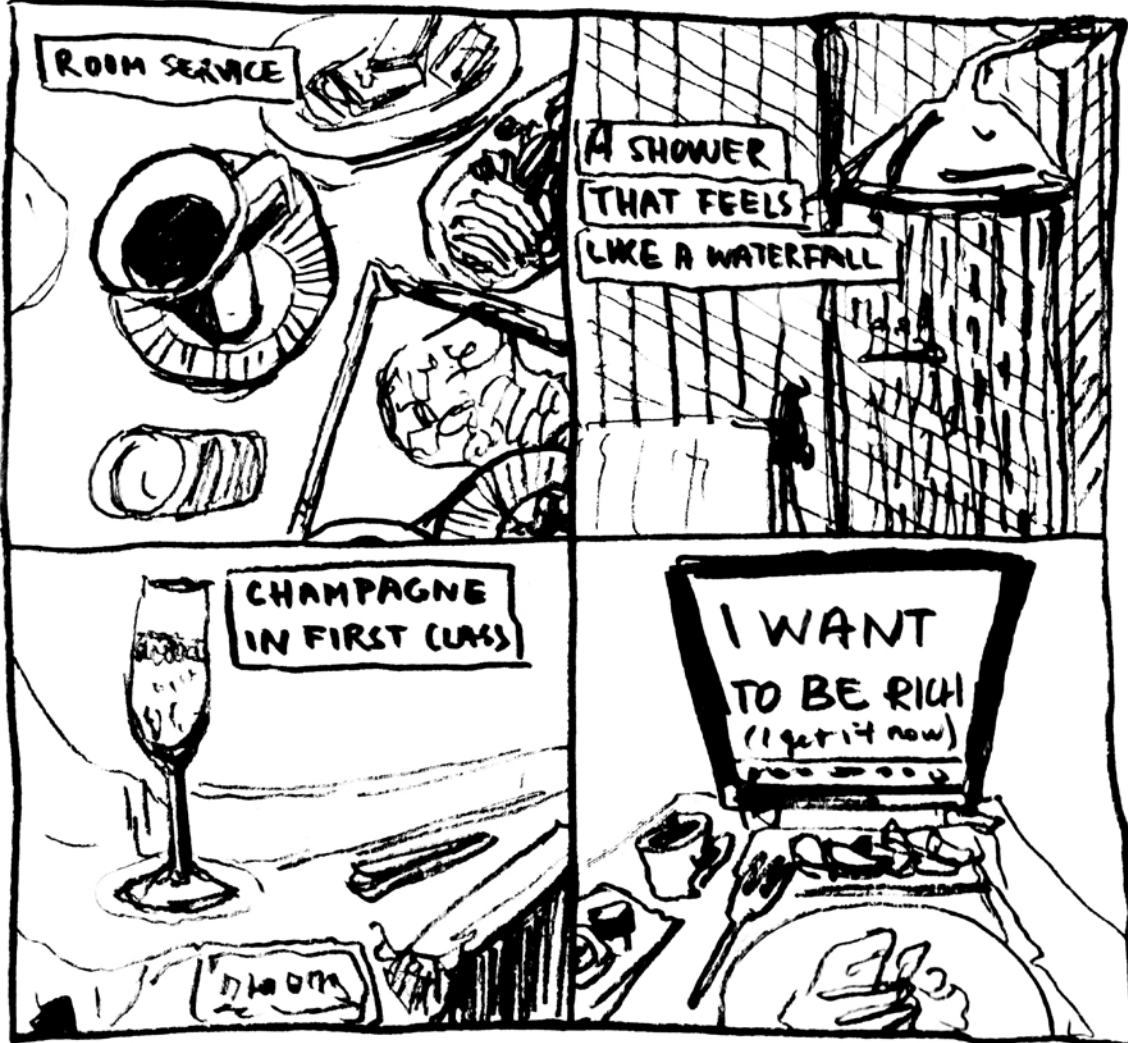


3: with made-up stories to *realize*

2: Sometimes it takes a made-up place

4: that your problems don't matter.

September 5



1: Room service.

3: Champagne in first class.

2: A shower that feels like a waterfall.

4: I want to be rich (I get it now).

September 6



1: How do people do it?

2: How do they not sink into a complete existential dread after graduating?

3: Of what's to come next?

4: Or not to come?

September 7



1: Life doesn't wait for you?

3: To grieve a loss before its inevitable arrival.

2: To get disappointed in someone on your own accord.

4: Does it?



1: I have now recorded my thoughts for 100 days

2: (with a bit of cheating here and there).

3: Isn't that the most egocentric thing you've ever heard?

4: To think that your thoughts matter for 3 months straight.

In just 100 days, more unfolded than I could have expected, and what a gift it is to express and share these moments—for those who find something of themselves within them.

Mariam Tovmasian is an Armenian illustrator and comic artist based in the UK. This marks her second self-published comic book.

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A wedding, a funeral, a birthday,
a graduation, a solo exhibition, and a looming
heartbreak – all in 100 days, each one captured in
four panels with a pen.